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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Attorney General Darrell McGraw Presents Funding to the Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance, Inc. from the Purdue Pharma Settlement Funds

Charleston- Attorney General Darrell McGraw today announced the presentation of a check in the amount of \$10,000 to the Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance, Inc. to assist in the funding of the Jabez Project, a program created to serve Charleston youth. This money comes from the third installment in the ten million dollar settlement with Purdue Pharma, the manufacturer of the drug OxyContin.

The Jabez Project began in 2002 and is designed to be a prevention and intervention project providing young people the necessary skills to resist the social pressure to use tobacco, use alcohol or use drugs. The project also educates young people as to devastating consequences of substance abuse. The main goal of the Jabez Project is to counter risky behaviors using prevention and intervention methods such as introducing youth to people, programs and processes that will promote better behavior, health and well-being.

The Project uses a creative mix of educational and recreational activities to help achieve their goals. Some of these activities include: trips to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta, GA., Career Camps, Basketball Camps, a Youth Mentoring Group, a Tuesday Night Youth Intervention Program, a tour of the former maximum security prison at Moundsville, a tour of the National Civil Rights Museum in Tennessee and a tour of the Great Blacks in Wax Museum in Maryland.

“The Jabez Project is an asset to the community of Charleston. It provides our youth the option of bettering their lives by making wise and healthy lifestyle choices,” said Attorney General Darrell McGraw.

In the settlement Purdue Pharma agreed to pay West Virginia ten million dollars over four years. The bulk of the money, including one million dollars from this year’s distribution has been used assist programs which are dedicated to fighting substance abuse. This funding will serve more than twenty counties across West Virginia.

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